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# ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

# Medical Officer of Health

FOR THE

**BOROUGH OF**

# **CLIFTON DARTMOUTH HARDNESS.**

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DARTMOUTH

PRINTED BY W. J. ELLIS, VICTORIA ROAD.



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For 1915.

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*To His Worship the Mayor and the Aldermen and Councillors  
of the Borough of Clifton Dartmouth Hardness.*

GENTLEMEN,

Owing to the absence of your Medical Officer of Health (Dr. John H. Harris) on foreign service in India, and in accordance with his statutory duties I have the honour to present to you the Annual Report upon the Health of the Inhabitants, and the Sanitary condition of the Borough. The Report also contains details of the administration of the Factory and Workshops Act, 1901, as required by the Secretary of State for the Home Department.

The Royal Naval College, for the initial Training of Officers for the Royal Navy, is situated in the Borough, and accommodates about 400 Cadets, together with the officers and school-masters necessary for the duties of instruction, also the cadets' servants and the staff required to maintain the institution, the majority of whom are residents in the Borough, and come under the jurisdiction of the Sanitary Authority. A great number were called upon for active service.

This year I have based the rates for Statistical Tables upon the estimated population to the middle of the year, viz., 7,005.

The area of the Borough is 1,847 acres, and the density of the population per acre is 3·8.

The natural increase, that is the excess of births over deaths, is 28.

During the year 75 deaths have been registered, giving a crude death rate of 10·4 per 1,000 of the population. From this number must be deducted two deaths of those who were non-resident in the Borough, and 10 deaths must be added, namely, those who, belonging to the district, died out of the district, which gives a corrected death rate of 11·5 per 1,000 of the population for the year, as compared with a death rate of 12·2 for the previous year.

Table III. of the Statistical Returns shows the various causes of these deaths, classified under the different periods of life.

Ten deaths have been registered as occurring among children under one year of age. One case of death of illegitimate children occurred.

Table IV. of the Statistical Returns gives the causes of death and the ages of the children in weeks and months.

One case of death from Measles occurred during the year, giving a zymotic death rate of 1 per 1,000.

Seventeen cases of Tuberculosis have been notified to me under the Public Health (Tuberculosis) Regulation Act, 1913, and 5 deaths have been registered as caused by Tuberculosis, all of which were Pulmonary. Every case notified has been visited, and circulars giving instructions as to how to act in the matter by the patient and the other occupants of the house have been distributed, and each case has, in accordance with the regulations been notified to the County M.O.H., and as far as practicable the rooms in which the patients have lived or died have been disinfected.

The Infectious Diseases notified during the year have been 8 cases of Scarlet Fever, 4 cases of Erysipelas, and 15 Diphtheria. The four cases of Erysipelas were due to local inoculation, which is invariably the cause in this disease.

The Temporary Isolation Hospital for infectious diseases, erected on the hill at Jawbones, has proved very useful for isolating the first cases as they are discovered. It contains six beds and the necessary administrative department. No cases have been admitted during the year.

**TABLE I.**

VITAL STATISTICS OF WHOLE DISTRICT DURING 1915  
AND PREVIOUS YEARS.

BOROUGH OF DARTMOUTH.

YEAR	Population estimated to middle of each year.	BIRTHS.			TOTAL DEATHS REGISTERED IN THE DISTRICT.		TRANSFER- ABLE DEATHS.		NETT DEATHS BELONGING TO THE DISTRICT.			
		Uncorrected Number.	Nett. Number	Rate	6	7	8	9	Under 1 Year of age.	At all ages		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1910	7159	164		22.9	95	13.2	2	0	9	51.8	84	11.8
1911	7005	133	135	18.4	98	13.9	4	8	13	97.0	94	13.4
1912	7060	151	152	21.3	78	11.0	2	5	13	85.6	76	10.7
1913	7070	133	133	18.8	87	12.3	5	4	14	105.2	86	12.19
1914	7005	126	127	18.1	76	10.8	0	10	13	102.0	86	13.2
1915	7194	113	113	15.7	75	10.4	2	10	10	88.7	83	11.5

Area of District in acres (exclusive of area covered by water) - 1,847.

Total population at all ages ... ... 7,005

Number of inhabited houses ... ... 1,550 } At Census of

Average number of person per house ... ... 4.5 } 1911

**TABLE II.**

CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE NOTIFIED DURING  
THE YEAR 1915.  
BOROUGH OF DARTMOUTH.

Notifiable Disease	Number of Cases Notified.						
	At all Ages	At Ages—Years.					
		Under 1	1 to 5	5 to 15	15 to 25	25 to 45	45 to 65
Small-pox ..							
Cholera ..							
Plague ..							
Diphtheria (including Membranous Croup) ..	15		3	5	7		
Erysipelas ..	4				2	2	
Scarlet Fever ..	8		2	3	3		
Typhus Fever ..						1	
Enteric Fever ..	1						
Relapsing Fever							
Continued Fever							
Puerperal Fever							
Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis							
Poliomyelitis ..							
Pulmonary Tuberculosis ..	2				1	1	
Other Forms of Tuberculosis ..	15	1	6	3	1	3	1
 Totals ..	45	1	11	11	15	6	1

Dartmouth Infectious Hospital, 6 beds.

Dartmouth and Kingswear Cottage Hospital, 12 beds.

TABLE III.

CAUSES OF, AND AGES AT DEATH DURING THE YEAR 1915.  
BOROUGH OF DARTMOUTH.

Causes of Death.	Nett Deaths at the subjoined ages of "Residents," whether occurring within or without the District.									Total Deaths whether of "Residents" or Non-Residents in Institutions in the District.	
	All Ages	Undr 1 Year	1 and und'r 2	2 and und'r 5	5 and und'r 15	15 & und'r 25	25 & und'r 45	45 & und'r 65	65 & upward		
All Causes { Certified ...	85	10		4	5	4	12	19	31		
Uncertified											
Enteric Fever	...										
Small Pox	...										
Measles	...	2	1		1						
Scarlet Fever	...	1		1							
Whooping Cough	...										
Diphtheria and Croup	...	2			2						
Influenza	...										
Erysipelas	...										
Phthisis (Pulmonary Tuberculosis)	...	5				1	3	1			
Tuberculous Meningitis	...										
Other tuberculous diseases								3	2		
Cancer, malignant disease	6										
Rheumatic Fever	...										
Meningitis	...										
Organic Heart Disease	...	10					3	2	5		
Bronchitis	...	10	4		1			2	3		
Pneumonia (all forms)	...					1	1	1	1		
Other diseases of Respiratory organs	...										
Diarrhoea and Enteritis	...	4	2		1	1					
Appendicitis & Typhlitis											
Cirrhosis of Liver	...	4				1		1	2		
Alcoholism	...										
Nephritis and Bright's Disease	...	2						1	1	1	
Puerperal Fever	...										
Other accidents and diseases of Pregnancy and Parturition	...						2				
Congenital Debility and Malformation, including Premature Birth	...	2	2								
Violent deaths, excluding Suicide	...	3				1	1	1			
Suicides	...										
Other Defined Diseases	...	28	1		2		1	7	17		
Diseases ill-defined or unknown	...										
		85	10		4	5	4	12	19	31	

**TABLE IV.**  
**BOROUGH OF DARTMOUTH.**  
**INFANT MORTALITY, 1915.**

Net Deaths from stated causes at various Ages under One Year of Age.

Cause of Death.	All Causes		Certified		Uncertified		Under 1 week	1 to 2 weeks	2 to 3 weeks	3 to 4 weeks	Total under 4 weeks	4 weeks & under 3 months	3 months & under 6 months	6 months & under 9 months	9 months & under 12 months	Total deaths under 1 year	
	3	1	4	1	1	10											
Small pox ...																	
Chicken pox ...																	
Measles ...																1	1
Scarlet Fever...																	1
Whooping Cough																	
Diphtheria and Croup																	
Erysipelas ...																	
Tuberculosis Meningitis																	
Abdominal Tuberculosis																	
Other Tuberculous Diseases																	
Meningitis, not Tuberculous																	
Convulsions ...																	
Laryngitis ...																	
Bronchitis ...		2						2									4
Pneumonia (all forms) ...																	
Diarrhoea ...																	
Enteritis ...																1	2
Gastritis ...																	
Syphilis ...																	
Kickets ...																	
Suffocation, overlying																	
Injury at Birth																	
Atelactasis ...																	
Congenital Malformations																	
Premature Birth ...																	
Atrophy, Debility, and Marasmus	1																2
Other Causes ...		1															1
<b>Totals ...</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>4</b>													<b>1</b>	<b>10</b>

Nett Births in the Year : Legitimate, 109 ; illegitimate, 4.

Nett deaths in the year of legitimate infants, 9 ; illegitimate infants, 1.

Three Inquests have been held, viz., for Accidental death, 1 ; Natural Causes 2.

One hundred and thirteen births have been registered, 60 males and 53 females, of which number 4 were illegitimate, and of these 1 male. The birth rate is still on the decline. This year the rate is only 15.7 per 1,000, as against 18.1 per 1,000 in 1914. The rate for the past five years is 25.6 per 1,000.

The scavenging is carried out by means of ash buckets placed outside the houses in the morning, the buckets being emptied into carts which go round the town, and is then carted about three miles into the country and emptied on to the land. About six tons are removed every day. I consider a destructor placed on a suitable site just outside the town would be more convenient and I think much more economical. The town has been constantly inspected during the year, and notices served upon owners and occupiers to abate nuisances and repair defects, but being such an old town many of the structural defects are very difficult to deal with.

The Bakehouses have been visited and inspected. There are no underground Bakehouses, there are no Common Lodging Houses, and no offensive trades are carried on in the town.

The Schools have been inspected. The present buildings are found to be too small to accommodate the number of children. The Educational Authorities have built another school in the Victoria Road that more accommodation may be provided. The sanitary condition and water supply of the present Schools are very satisfactory.

The Sanitary Inspector, Mr. F. J. Voisey reports he is continuing the house-to-house inspection, and has visited 159 houses. Nine bakehouses have been repaired and the Sanitary conveniences installed where required. The number of new drains and Sanitary conveniences installed to dwelling houses have been 12, the number of houses and bedding disinfected have been 24, the number of schools ditto, 2. Number of notices to abate nuisances 17, and those abated ditto. No closing orders have been made, and only one new house built for the year.

All the Milk Vendors have had notices to partition off a space for the sale of dairy produce only, and all but two have done so, these two have the work in hand.

The Milk Supply to the Town is very good. It is brought into the town from the farms around, and some of it from farms not in the district, and is of very good quality. The Dairies, Cowsheds, and Milkshops have been periodically visited and inspected during the year.

(N.B.—The Medical Officer of Health being on active service, the full particulars as to the administration of the Dairies, Cowsheds, and Milkshops Regulations, and the Housing (Inspection of District) Regulations 1910), will be submitted to the Local Government Board on his return.)

Inspections have been made with regard to the exposure of food for sale. One case was found to have been adulterated viz., one of skim milk. Proceedings were taken in this case and a fine of £1 was inflicted.

During the year 33 Samples of Food have been taken under the Sale of Food and Drugs Act, and sent to the County Analyst, viz., new milk 6, skim milk 6, butter 4, rum 3, cream 1, vinegar 1, jam 2, ham 2, lard 1, cheese 2, rice 1, tea 2, coffee 1; total 33.

The Slaughter Houses have been inspected, and also the Animals whilst killing, and everything has been found satisfactory.

The administration of the Factory and Workshops Act, 1901, in connection with Factories, Work Places, Workshops, and Home Work. Inspections have been made of the workshops during the year, and everything has been found satisfactory. No nuisances of any importance have been found, and all the premises meet with the requirements of the Act. No prosecutions have taken place during the year. I have had no list of out-workers sent in. No cases of infectious diseases have been traced to any of the workshops.

#### INSPECTION OF FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS, AND WORKPLACES

Including Inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors or Inspectors of Nuisances.

		No. of Inspections.	No. of Written Notices.	No. of Prosecutions.
Factories (including Factory Laundries) ...	15	...	0	...
Workshops (including Workshop Laundries) ...	9	...	0	...
Workplaces (other than Out- workers' Premises) ...	14	...	0	...
Total ...	38	...	0	...

## DEFECTS FOUND IN FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS, &amp; WORKPLACES

Particulars.	No. of Defects.			
	Found.	Remed'd	Referred to H.M. Inspect'r	Number of Prosecutions.
<b>Nuisances under the Public Health Acts :—</b>				
Want of cleanliness .....	...	...		
Want of ventilation .....	...	...		
Overcrowding .....	...	...		
Want of drainage of floors .....	...	...		
Other Nuisances .....	...	...		
Sanitary   } insufficient .....	...	...		
Accommoda- } unsuitable or defective..				
tion.       } not separate for sexes..	...	...		
<b>Offences under the Factory and Workshop Acts</b>				
Illegal occupation of underground bake- houses (s. 101) .....	...	...		
Breach of special sanitary requirements for bakehouses (ss. 97 to 100) .....	...	...		
Other Offences .....	...	...		
(Excluding offences relating to outwork)				
<b>Total</b>	...	...		
			Nil.	

## OUTWORKERS' LISTS, SECTION 107.

Lists received from Employers sending once in the year :—

Wearing Apparel—	Lists.	Contractors.	Workmen.
Making, &c., cleaning and washing .....	0	0	0

## REGISTERED WORKSHOPS.

Workshops on the Register (s. 131) at the end of the year.

Bakehouses .....	...	...	16
Tailors .....	...	...	6
Dressmakers .....	...	...	9
Plumbers and Painters .....	...	...	5
Builders and Carpenters .....	...	...	8
Printers .....	...	...	3
Aerated Water Works .....	...	...	1
Engineers .....	...	...	4
Other Works .....	...	...	27

Total Number of Workshops on Register 79

## OTHER MATTERS.

Matters notified to H.M. Inspector of Factories :—			
Failure to affix Abstract of the Factory and Workshops Acts (s. 133)			
Action taken in matters referred by H.M. Inspector as remedial under the Public Health Acts, but not under the Factory and Workshops Act, (s. 5.)	Notified by H.M. Inspector	Reports (of action taken) sent to H.M. Inspector.	Nil
Other	...	...	...
Underground Bakehouses (s. 101) :—	...	...	...
Certificates granted during the year	...	...	...
In use at the end of the year.	...	...	...

The Vaccination Returns for the year are as follows :—

Successfully vaccinated	...	67
Insusceptible to vaccination	...	0
Concientious objections	...	33
Died unvaccinated	...	4
Unvaccinated under 6 months old	...	8
Unvaccinated over 6 months old	...	0
Postponed by Medical Certificate	...	1
Removed out of the district	...	1

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I have the honour to be Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

H. S. R. SPARROW, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.,

for JOHN H. HARRIS, M.D., D.P.H.,

Medical Officer of Health.

*April, 1916.*



